

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing  
5 Section 15-111 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-111) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111)

7 Sec. 15-111. Wheel and axle loads and gross weights.

8 (a) No vehicle or combination of vehicles with pneumatic  
9 tires may be operated, unladen or with load, when the total  
10 weight on the road surface exceeds the following: 20,000 pounds  
11 on a single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle  
12 within the tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds gross  
13 weight for vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a total  
14 weight on a group of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of  
15 that weight produced by the application of the following  
16 formula:  $W = 500 \text{ times the sum of } (LN \text{ divided by } N-1) + 12N +$   
17  $36$ , where "W" equals overall total weight on any group of 2 or  
18 more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L" equals  
19 the distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of  
20 any group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N" equals the  
21 number of axles in the group under consideration.

22 The above formula when expressed in tabular form results in  
23 allowable loads as follows:

1	Distance measured					
2	to the nearest					
3	foot between the					
4	extremes of any		Maximum weight in pounds			
5	group of 2 or		of any group of			
6	more consecutive		2 or more consecutive axles			
7	axles					
8	feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
9	4	34,000				
10	5	34,000				
11	6	34,000				
12	7	34,000				
13	8	38,000*	42,000			
14	9	39,000	42,500			
15	10	40,000	43,500			
16	11		44,000			
17	12		45,000	50,000		
18	13		45,500	50,500		
19	14		46,500	51,500		
20	15		47,000	52,000		
21	16		48,000	52,500	58,000	
22	17		48,500	53,500	58,500	
23	18		49,500	54,000	59,000	
24	19		50,000	54,500	60,000	
25	20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000

1	21	51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
2	22	52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
3	23	53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
4	24	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
5	25	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
6	26	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
7	27	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
8	28	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
9	29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
10	30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000
11	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
12	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
13	33		64,000	68,500	74,000
14	34		64,500	69,000	74,500
15	35		65,500	70,000	75,000
16	36		66,000	70,500	75,500
17	37		66,500	71,000	76,000
18	38		67,500	72,000	77,000
19	39		68,000	72,500	77,500
20	40		68,500	73,000	78,000
21	41		69,500	73,500	78,500
22	42		70,000	74,000	79,000
23	43		70,500	75,000	80,000
24	44		71,500	75,500	
25	45		72,000	76,000	
26	46		72,500	76,500	

1	47	73,500	77,500
2	48	74,000	78,000
3	49	74,500	78,500
4	50	75,500	79,000
5	51	76,000	80,000
6	52	76,500	
7	53	77,500	
8	54	78,000	
9	55	78,500	
10	56	79,500	
11	57	80,000	

12 \*If the distance between 2 axles is 96 inches or less, the 2  
13 axles are tandem axles and the maximum total weight may not  
14 exceed 34,000 pounds, notwithstanding the higher limit  
15 resulting from the application of the formula.

16 Vehicles not in a combination having more than 4 axles may  
17 not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (a) for 4  
18 axles measured between the extreme axles of the vehicle.

19 Vehicles in a combination having more than 6 axles may not  
20 exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (a) for 6  
21 axles measured between the extreme axles of the combination.

22 Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways  
23 under their jurisdiction, without additional fees, may also by  
24 ordinance or resolution allow the weight limitations of this  
25 subsection, provided the maximum gross weight on any one axle  
26 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the maximum total weight on

1 any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on designated  
2 highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving notice are  
3 erected upon the street or highway or portion of any street or  
4 highway affected by the ordinance or resolution.

5 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

6 (1) Vehicles for which a different limit is established  
7 and posted in accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code.

8 (2) Vehicles for which the Department of  
9 Transportation and local authorities issue overweight  
10 permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code.  
11 These vehicles are not subject to the bridge formula.

12 (3) Cities having a population of more than 50,000 may  
13 permit by ordinance axle loads on 2 axle motor vehicles 33  
14 1/2% above those provided for herein, but the increase  
15 shall not become effective until the city has officially  
16 notified the Department of the passage of the ordinance and  
17 shall not apply to those vehicles when outside of the  
18 limits of the city, nor shall the gross weight of any 2  
19 axle motor vehicle operating over any street of the city  
20 exceed 40,000 pounds.

21 (4) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles  
22 (including loads) operated by a public utility when  
23 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of  
24 public utility facilities or properties or water wells.

25 (4.5) A 3 or 4 axle vehicle (including when laden)  
26 operated or hired by a municipality within Cook, Lake,

1 McHenry, Kane, DuPage, or Will county being operated for  
2 the purpose of performing emergency sewer repair that would  
3 be subject to a weight limitation less than 66,000 pounds  
4 under the formula in this subsection (a) shall have a  
5 weight limitation of 66,000 pounds or the vehicle's gross  
6 vehicle weight rating, whichever is less. This paragraph  
7 (4.5) does not apply to vehicles being operated on the  
8 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, or to  
9 vehicles being operated on bridges or other elevated  
10 structures constituting a part of a highway.

11 (5) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a  
12 total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance  
13 between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of  
14 tandem axles is 36 feet or more, notwithstanding the lower  
15 limit resulting from the application of the above formula.

16 (6) A truck, not in combination and used exclusively  
17 for the collection of rendering materials, may, when laden,  
18 transmit upon the road surface, except when on part of the  
19 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, the  
20 following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle;  
21 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle.

22 (7) A truck not in combination, equipped with a self  
23 compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off  
24 container, used exclusively for garbage, refuse, or  
25 recycling operations, may, when laden, transmit upon the  
26 road surface, except when on part of the National System of

1 Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum  
2 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a  
3 tandem axle; 40,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle  
4 vehicle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle.  
5 This vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.

6 (7.5) A 3-axle rear discharge truck mixer registered as  
7 a Special Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing  
8 and transportation of concrete in the plastic state, may,  
9 when laden, transmit upon the road surface, except when on  
10 part of the National System of Interstate and Defense  
11 Highways, the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on  
12 single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle; 54,000 pounds  
13 gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle. This vehicle is not  
14 subject to the bridge formula.

15 (8) Except as provided in paragraph (7.5) of this  
16 subsection (a), tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered  
17 as a Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in  
18 the model year of 2024 and first registered in Illinois  
19 prior to January 1, 2025, with a distance greater than 72  
20 inches but not more than 96 inches between any series of 2  
21 axles, is allowed a combined weight on the series not to  
22 exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may  
23 exceed 20,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured  
24 after the model year of 2024 or first registered in  
25 Illinois after December 31, 2024 may not exceed a combined  
26 weight of 34,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and

1           neither axle of the series may exceed 20,000 pounds.

2           A 3-axle combination sewer cleaning jetting vacuum  
3           truck registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used  
4           exclusively for the transportation of non-hazardous solid  
5           waste, manufactured before or in the model year of 2014,  
6           first registered in Illinois before January 1, 2015, may,  
7           when laden, transmit upon the road surface, except when on  
8           part of the National System of Interstate and Defense  
9           Highways, the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a  
10          single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle; 54,000 pounds  
11          gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle. This vehicle is not  
12          subject to the bridge formula.

13          (9) A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special  
14          Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and  
15          transportation of concrete in the plastic state, ~~2024-2025~~  
16          and not operated on a highway that is part of the National  
17          System of Interstate Highways, is allowed the following  
18          maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle; 36,000  
19          pounds on a series of axles greater than 72 inches but not  
20          more than 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on any series of 2  
21          axles greater than 40 inches but not more than 72 inches.  
22          The gross weight of this vehicle may not exceed the weights  
23          allowed by the bridge formula for 4 axles. The bridge  
24          formula does not apply to any series of 3 axles while the  
25          vehicle is transporting concrete in the plastic state, but  
26          no axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum



1 weight permitted under this paragraph (9) of subsection  
2 (a).

3 (10) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special  
4 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured  
5 prior to or in the model year of 2024, and registered in  
6 Illinois prior to January 1, 2025, having 5 axles with a  
7 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not  
8 exceed the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on a  
9 single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000  
10 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not  
11 subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations  
12 of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after  
13 the effective date of P.A. 92-0417, the overall distance  
14 between the first and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems  
15 must be 18 feet 6 inches or more. Any combination of  
16 vehicles that has had its cargo container replaced in its  
17 entirety after December 31, 2024 may not exceed the weights  
18 allowed by the bridge formula.

19 (11) The maximum weight allowed on a vehicle with  
20 crawler type tracks is 40,000 pounds.

21 (12) A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck  
22 and a disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles,  
23 that exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code,  
24 may be operated on a public highway in this State provided  
25 that neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being  
26 towed nor the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight

1 limitations permitted under this Chapter. During the  
2 towing operation, neither the tow truck nor the vehicle  
3 combination shall exceed 24,000 pounds on a single rear  
4 axle and 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle, provided the  
5 towing vehicle:

6 (i) is specifically designed as a tow truck having  
7 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds  
8 and is equipped with air brakes, provided that air  
9 brakes are required only if the towing vehicle is  
10 towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer  
11 combination that is equipped with air brakes;

12 (ii) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
13 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet  
14 in all directions;

15 (iii) is capable of utilizing the lighting and  
16 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination  
17 of vehicles; and

18 (iv) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles  
19 from the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any  
20 additional movement of the vehicles may occur only upon  
21 issuance of authorization for that movement under the  
22 provisions of Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this  
23 Code. The towing vehicle, however, may tow any disabled  
24 vehicle to a point where repairs are actually to occur.  
25 This movement shall be valid only on State routes. The  
26 tower must abide by posted bridge weight limits.

1           Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of  
2 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license  
3 plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck  
4 only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered  
5 by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the  
6 vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid  
7 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is  
8 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that  
9 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of  
10 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate  
11 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and  
12 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed. If a roll-back  
13 carrier is registered and being used as a tow truck, however,  
14 the license plate or plates for the tow truck must cover the  
15 gross vehicle weight, including any load carried on the bed of  
16 the roll-back carrier.

17           The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
18 additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall  
19 prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer  
20 from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in  
21 violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the  
22 roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway. If in the  
23 opinion of the police officer that location is unsafe, the  
24 officer is authorized to have the disabled vehicle towed to the  
25 nearest place of safety.

26           For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight

1 rating, or GVWR, means the value specified by the manufacturer  
2 as the loaded weight of the tow truck.

3 (b) As used in this Section, "recycling haul" or "recycling  
4 operation" means the hauling of non-hazardous, non-special,  
5 non-putrescible materials, such as paper, glass, cans, or  
6 plastic, for subsequent use in the secondary materials market.

7 (c) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with  
8 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon  
9 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of  
10 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301  
11 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

12 (d) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with  
13 other than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with  
14 load, upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on  
15 the road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch  
16 width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road  
17 surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.

18 (e) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of  
19 vehicles over a bridge or other elevated structure constituting  
20 part of a highway with a gross weight that is greater than the  
21 maximum weight permitted by the Department, when the structure  
22 is sign posted as provided in this Section.

23 (f) The Department upon request from any local authority  
24 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an investigation  
25 of any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part  
26 of a highway, and if it finds that the structure cannot with

1 safety to itself withstand the weight of vehicles otherwise  
2 permissible under this Code the Department shall determine and  
3 declare the maximum weight of vehicles that the structures can  
4 withstand, and shall cause or permit suitable signs stating  
5 maximum weight to be erected and maintained before each end of  
6 the structure. No person shall operate a vehicle or combination  
7 of vehicles over any structure with a gross weight that is  
8 greater than the posted maximum weight.

9 (g) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation  
10 of subsection (e) or (f) of this Section, proof of the  
11 determination of the maximum allowable weight by the Department  
12 and the existence of the signs, constitutes conclusive evidence  
13 of the maximum weight that can be maintained with safety to the  
14 bridge or structure.

15 (Source: P.A. 97-201, eff. 1-1-12; 98-409, eff. 1-1-14; 98-410,  
16 eff. 8-16-13; revised 9-19-13.)